

Second Regular Session
Sixty-seventh General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 10-0926.02 Jane Ritter

SENATE BILL 10-189

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Steadman, Boyd, Carroll M., Heath, Romer, Tochtrop

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Weissmann, Levy, Riesberg

Senate Committees

Health and Human Services

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO
102 APPROVE CLEAN SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS TO REDUCE
103 THE SPREAD OF BLOOD-BORNE DISEASE.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

The bill creates an exemption from drug paraphernalia laws for an employee or volunteer of an approved clean syringe exchange program (program). A county board of health or district board of health (board) is granted the authority to approve a program proposed by a county public

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

health agency or district public health agency (agency), provided certain procedures are followed. Prior to approving a program, the board shall consult with interested stakeholders from the community and shall address with them certain issues, including the scope of the program, any concerns of law enforcement, and the parameters of the program. The bill lists several components that proposed programs shall have the ability to provide. If an agency contracts with a nonprofit organization to operate a program, the contract will be subject to annual review and reauthorization.

One or more counties represented on a district board of health may at any time opt out of a proposed or approved program.

Each board that authorizes a program is required to submit an annual report to the department of public health and environment, which will in turn submit an annual report to the health and human services committees of the house of representatives and the senate.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** Part 4 of article 18 of title 18, Colorado Revised
3 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
4 read:

5 **18-18-430.5. Drug paraphernalia - exemption.** A PERSON
6 SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 18-18-425 TO
7 18-18-430 IF HE OR SHE IS PARTICIPATING AS AN EMPLOYEE OR
8 VOLUNTEER IN AN APPROVED SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM CREATED
9 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-1-520, C.R.S.

10 **SECTION 2.** The introductory portion to 25-1-508 (5) and
11 25-1-508 (5) (j), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said
12 25-1-508 (5) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW
13 PARAGRAPH, to read:

14 **25-1-508. County or district boards of public health - public**
15 **health directors.** (5) In addition to all other powers and duties conferred
16 and imposed upon A county BOARD OF HEALTH or ~~district boards~~ A
17 DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH by the provisions of this subpart 3, A county

1 BOARD OF HEALTH or ~~district boards~~ A DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH shall
2 have and exercise the following specific powers and duties:

3 (j) To provide environmental health services and to assess fees to
4 offset the actual, direct cost of such services; except that no fee for a
5 service shall be assessed against any person who has already paid a fee to
6 the state or federal government for the service, and except that the only
7 fee that shall be charged for annual retail food establishment inspections
8 shall be the fee set forth in section 25-4-1607; and

9 (l) TO APPROVE, AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 25-1-520, A CLEAN
10 SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM PROPOSED BY AN AGENCY. A COUNTY
11 BOARD OF HEALTH OR DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH SHALL NOT BE
12 REQUIRED TO APPROVE A PROPOSED PROGRAM.

13 **SECTION 3.** Part 5 of article 1 of title 25, Colorado Revised
14 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
15 read:

16 **25-1-520. Clean syringe exchange programs - approval -**
17 **reporting requirements - repeal.** (1) A COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
18 AGENCY OR DISTRICT PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY MAY REQUEST APPROVAL
19 FROM ITS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH OR DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH,
20 REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "BOARD", FOR A CLEAN SYRINGE
21 EXCHANGE PROGRAM OPERATED BY THE AGENCY OR BY A NONPROFIT
22 ORGANIZATION WITH WHICH THE AGENCY CONTRACTS TO OPERATE THE
23 CLEAN SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM. PRIOR TO APPROVING OR
24 DISAPPROVING ANY SUCH OPTIONAL PROGRAM, THE BOARD SHALL
25 CONSULT WITH THE AGENCY AND INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS
26 CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CLEAN SYRINGE EXCHANGE
27 PROGRAM. INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NEED NOT

1 BE LIMITED TO, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, DISTRICT
2 ATTORNEYS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT PROVIDERS, PERSONS IN
3 RECOVERY, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, AND MEMBERS OF THE
4 COMMUNITY. THE BOARD AND INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS SHALL
5 CONSIDER, AT A MINIMUM, THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

6 (a) THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM BEING ADDRESSED AND THE
7 POPULATION THE PROGRAM WOULD SERVE;

8 (b) CONCERNS OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY; AND

9 (c) THE PARAMETERS OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAM, INCLUDING
10 METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING PROGRAM WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS.

11 (2) EACH PROPOSED CLEAN SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM SHALL,
12 AT A MINIMUM, HAVE THE ABILITY TO:

13 (a) PROVIDE AN INJECTION DRUG USER WITH THE INFORMATION
14 AND THE MEANS TO PROTECT HIMSELF OR HERSELF, HIS OR HER PARTNER,
15 AND HIS OR HER FAMILY FROM EXPOSURE TO BLOOD-BORNE DISEASE
16 THROUGH ACCESS TO EDUCATION, STERILE INJECTION EQUIPMENT,
17 VOLUNTARY TESTING FOR BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES, AND COUNSELING;

18 (b) PROVIDE THOROUGH REFERRALS TO FACILITATE ENTRY INTO
19 DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT, INCLUDING OPIOID SUBSTITUTION THERAPY;

20 (c) ENCOURAGE USAGE OF MEDICAL CARE AND MENTAL HEALTH
21 SERVICES AS WELL AS SOCIAL WELFARE AND HEALTH PROMOTION;

22 (d) PROVIDE SAFETY PROTOCOLS AND CLASSES FOR THE PROPER
23 HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF INJECTION MATERIALS;

24 (e) PLAN AND IMPLEMENT THE CLEAN SYRINGE EXCHANGE
25 PROGRAM WITH THE CLEAR OBJECTIVE OF REDUCING THE TRANSMISSION
26 OF BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES WITHIN A SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC AREA; AND

27 (f) DEVELOP A TIMELINE FOR THE PROPOSED PROGRAM AND FOR

1 THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

2 (3) THE BOARD MAY APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE PROPOSED
3 CLEAN SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THE
4 MEETINGS HELD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

5 (4) IF THE BOARD APPROVES A CLEAN SYRINGE EXCHANGE
6 PROGRAM THAT IS OPERATED THROUGH A CONTRACT WITH A NONPROFIT
7 ORGANIZATION, THE CONTRACT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL REVIEW
8 AND SHALL BE REAUTHORIZED ONLY IF THE BOARD APPROVES THE
9 CONTRACT AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT PUBLIC
10 HEALTH AGENCY AND INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS AS DESCRIBED IN
11 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

12 (5) ONE OR MORE COUNTIES REPRESENTED ON A DISTRICT BOARD
13 OF HEALTH MAY AT ANY TIME OPT OUT OF A CLEAN SYRINGE EXCHANGE
14 PROGRAM PROPOSED OR APPROVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

15 (6) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2011, AND ON OR BEFORE JULY 1
16 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH BOARD THAT AUTHORIZES A CLEAN
17 SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT
18 A REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
19 CONCERNING THE RESULTS OF THE PROGRAM. ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER
20 1, 2011, AND ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
21 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT SHALL SUBMIT A
22 REPORT TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE
23 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
24 COMMITTEES, SUMMARIZING THE REPORTS RECEIVED FROM BOARDS
25 PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH (a).

26 (b) THIS SUBSECTION (6) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014.

27 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act

1 shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
2 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
3 11, 2010, if adjournment sine die is on May 12, 2010); except that, if a
4 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
5 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
6 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part shall not take effect
7 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
8 November 2010 and shall take effect on the date of the official
9 declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.